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OTTAWA

metro



® Wednesday, April 6, 2011
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Embassy. Arrests



STEVE COLLINS/METRO

▶ An Ottawa police officer escorts a man into a cruiser outside the Libyan Embassy yesterday.

Seven arrested after embassy altercation

RCMP spokesman Sgt. Marc Menard said seven men were arrested inside the Libyan Embassy after people were granted access to the embassy and then allegedly began causing property damage. "It appears a common assault on an embassy employee may have occurred," said Menard. The embassy on Metcalfe Street has been the frequent scene of street protests in recent weeks.

Hydro Ottawa leaks cash

► Document shows agency spent thousands on Sens box seats ► Opposition demands action

Ontario's Liberal government likes to talk about protecting hydro ratepayers but does nothing to stop lavish spending on entertainment by local utilities, the New Democrats charged yesterday.

The NDP released documents obtained under freedom of information showing Hydro Ottawa spent almost \$30,000 last year on box seats at Ottawa Senators games.

The government has banned such spending by provincial energy agencies, but Premier Dalton McGuinty washed his hands of the Hydro Ottawa situation because the utility is municipally owned.

"I'm going to let city council in



"Ottawa families are struggling to pay hydro bills — it's happening across the province — and now we're seeing this kind of abuse."

TIM HUDAK, LEADER OF THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY OF ONTARIO

Ottawa speak to those kinds of issues," McGuinty told reporters. "Believe me, I've got enough on my own plate." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



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MARC DESROSIER/FOR METRO

► Pallbearers leave the Kelly Funeral Home with Jessica Riopelle's casket.

Slain woman fondly recalled

► Friends and family gather in Orleans to mourn young woman killed in isolated south-end motel ► Jessica Riopelle died a week after her friend Scott Ledoux was stabbed to death



JOE LOFARO
@METRONEWS.CA

About 200 people filled up the seats of the chapel at the Orleans Kelly Funeral Home and more crowded into the corridor yesterday to say goodbye to their "dear angel," Jessica Riopelle.

The 23-year-old was killed inside a south-end

motel on Bank Street on March 26. A 34-year-old man, Patrick Dunac, is charged with second-degree murder.

Many who attended the service were young men and women around Riopelle's age who came in groups of four and five. They consoled each other and helped wipe each other's tears during the service.

"I wake up praying that for just one more day I could watch her reach out and mend someone's broken soul, rescue an abandoned animal or play with a child."

KAREN RIOPELLE, MOTHER

"I want you to know the

bond we share will never be broken. You will always be my best friend," said Riopelle's older sister, Chelsea, during the service.

She remembered her sister as a beautiful, free-spirited person who would go out of her way to help others.

Riopelle's mother, Karen, also eulogized her daughter, expressing her personal grief after losing

her beloved daughter.

"I wake up every morning, hoping to hear her voice or see her beautiful face, her smile that overwhelmingly lit up every room," said Karen, struggling to compose herself.

After the service, red rose petals were scattered in the parking lot outside the funeral home where Riopelle's casket was carried by pallbearers.

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news

On the web at
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Many thought Michael Ignatieff was doomed this election, but 10 days of campaigning changes a lot. More at metronews.ca/spindocor

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Tories come under withering fire for early social media stumbles. Scan the code for the story.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2011

Proposed cuts on bus routes may see revision: City

► Deadline for public feedback on the potential route cuts is April 7 ► Changes to take effect by Sept. 4



STEVE COLLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

The city has been "listening intently" at public meetings on proposed bus route cuts and might reverse some of them, transit commission chair Diane Deans said yesterday.

"When we come back with the revised document, hopefully it will be very reflective of what



► Diane Deans

we've heard," she said,

within limits imposed by Transpo's \$22-million savings target.

Transport Action Canada's David Jeanes said that target make cuts inevitable somewhere.

"If they have to make changes based on the feedback ... they're going to have to make further cuts to other routes whose users haven't even been told that cuts might happen," he said.

Campus. Construction



► Algonquin College president Robert Gillett, left, and Algonquin College Students' Association president Jacob Sancartier break ground on the college's \$52-million Student Commons project that will see a 110,000-square-foot facility open on campus in the fall of 2012.

CONTRIBUTED

Building a Student Commons

Algonquin College Students' Association president Jacob Sancartier says the new building, paid for by the association and the college, will provide students a place to gather, seek out services and develop social networks that help to sustain a successful education.

Museum buys historic medal

The Canadian War Museum has paid \$30,000 for a historic medal.

The Albert Medal for Saving Life At Sea was presented posthumously to Albert Charles Mattison for heroism during the 1917 Halifax explosion.

● STEVE COLLINS

Local medic wins award

An Ottawa-based flight paramedic has won the Tim Hynes Flight Paramedic of the Year Award.

Patrick Auger is the first Canadian to win the award, presented annually by the International Association of Flight Paramedics. ● METRO

Stay off sports fields, city says

The city is asking residents to stay off ball diamonds until May 1 and sports fields until May 15 to allow the turf to grow for the upcoming season.

Groups with city permits can use sports fields on dates specified in their agreements if weather permits, the city says. ● METRO

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No May-bes: She's off TV

► Elizabeth May loses bid to join leaders' debates ► But Greens fight on

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Green party Leader Elizabeth May says she'll appeal to Canadians to put pressure on the other party leaders and the TV consortium in an effort to change their minds.



Elizabeth May has been thwarted in her last-ditch effort to convince the courts to give her a podium at next week's televised leaders' debates.

But the Green party leader is not giving up yet. Federal Court judge

Marc Nadon refused yesterday to make an emergency ruling on the case before the debates get underway. The short period of time wouldn't have allowed the court "to perform its duty in a satisfactory manner," Nadon said.

It was a body blow for the Greens, who got a major blast of publicity when

May participated in the debates during the 2008 federal election.

The Greens will pursue the matter in the Federal Court of Appeal, even though the case can't be heard before the debates, May said.

But she'll also be talking to her lawyer about whether there are "any legal avenues" that would

allow the Greens to have the matter heard in court before then.

The consortium that runs the debates insists only parties with seats in the last House of Commons can participate.

The English-language debate is on April 12. The French-language debate will take place April 14.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WHO'LL BE PM?

Iggy tells Quebec: You choose

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff is asking Quebec voters to determine who'll be the next prime minister.

Ignatieff travelled to separatist Bloc Québécois territory in central Quebec yesterday in pursuit of

his bid to unseat Stephen Harper's Tories.

The Liberal leader has been casting the May 2 election as a two-horse race, a fact of life he says Bloc Leader Gilles Duceppe has accepted.

Duceppe has noted that either Harper or Ignatieff would occupy 24 Sussex Drive.

"Even Mr. Duceppe understands that," Ignatieff said. "So what we've got to say to Quebecers is, you've got to choose here, folks."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Harper's style not pretty, says Layton

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jack Layton took aim yesterday at Harper government scandals.

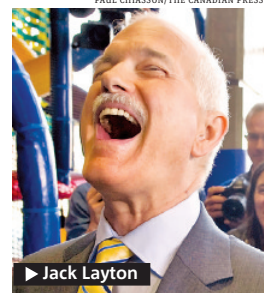
The NDP leader provided a laundry list of alleged Conservative misdeeds, including the latest revelation that Stephen Harper hired a senior adviser who had five fraud convictions.

The prime minister has said he knew Bruce Carson had one conviction, but not others.

Layton said he doesn't believe Harper and he claimed most Canadians don't, either.

He said in Winnipeg: "Canadians are right to be asking: 'If Mr. Harper wins this election, how long will it be until the next Conservative insider is charged with fraud?'"

And just to emphasize the point, he repeated his entire condemnation in French rather than alter-



► Jack Layton

nating between languages as he does most often.

The barring of opponents from Tory rallies and tight background checks on those who do get in are the "signs of a closed, controlling approach," Layton said.

"I think it says something about Stephen Harper and his administration, and it's not pretty," he added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tears as women ejected from Tory event

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Two women have been ejected from a Conservative event for perceived ties to the Liberals — a move Michael Ignatieff calls "un-Canadian."

The Liberal leader cites an incident Sunday in which the women were ordered to leave a Tory event in London, Ont.

One woman, a 19-year-old student, broke into tears after she and her

friend were forced out of a rally by an official, who then ripped off their name tags and tore them, a newspaper said.

The official claimed to know via Facebook that the pair had links to the Liberals.

Another newspaper cited an incident in which a volunteer who helps homeless veterans was turned away from a Harper



► Stephen Harper eats maple taffy at a Quebec sugar shack yesterday.

rally in Dartmouth, N.S.

When asked about the incidents, Harper appeared to lay the blame at the feet of his campaign workers.

"Staff runs our campaigns and I can't comment on individual matters like that," he said in Quebec.

"Hundreds and hundreds of people are coming to see our campaign."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PMO apologizes

London West Conservative candidate Ed Holder told a London radio station he found Sunday's incident regrettable.

► "The Conservative party, through the Prime Minister's Office, has issued an apology to the two students who were asked po-

lately, but clearly, to leave — but it's still wrong," Holder said.

"In fact, sometimes you get folks who are a little overzealous and they think they're doing the right thing and, frankly, that's really unfortunate."

Holder said he has been told the prime minister is willing to meet the students. AM980/AM980.CA

MAY'S DEBATE EXCLUSION DOES DISSERVICE TO VOTERS

By FRED RINNE, QMI AGENCY, April 1, 2011

"It is a common sense proposition that anyone who received a million votes has a right to be heard... To exclude [May] is to invite yet another examination of why we as a society delegate to television networks the right to decide issues like this."

Elly Alboim, Associate Professor of Journalism and former Parliamentary Bureau Chief for CBC TV News

"The Green Party, led by Elizabeth May, is the one political party clearly committed to averting the catastrophic consequences of our continuing to treat the Earth as mere dirt beneath our feet, so it is imperative that she be allowed to debate."

Farley Mowat

Let May In

Ottawa Citizen, March 30, 2011

"Democracy demands that the media simply relay Parties' positions without attempting to control the message. Excluding the leader of a party that garnered 1 out of every 15 votes in the 2008 federal election is just plain wrong"

-Cal Millar, President of Channel Zero.

"The decision by the broadcast consortium to exclude Green Party Leader Elizabeth May from the 2011 leaders' debate is mystifying... The broadcast consortium should first apologize to May and reverse its decision."

Vancouver Sun Editorial,
30 Mar 2011

"It's bad enough that the Greens got nearly a million votes last election yet got no seats. It's insane that they can't even get on TV. This is UTTERLY outrageous."

-Andrew Coyne, national editor of Maclean's magazine, via twitter.

"Let Elizabeth May in the debate. She's the vinegar that brightens up the vegetables."

Rick Mercer, via Twitter

"It is time for the people of this country to stand up and let the media and the politicians know that an election is a time for people's voices to be heard and Elizabeth May speaks for a lot of people in this country."

Judy Rebick, Sam Gindin Chair in Social Justice and Democracy at Ryerson University



emayin.ca

What are the Bigwigs so afraid of?

The broadcast consortium has excluded Green Party Leader Elizabeth May from the 2011 leaders' debate. **Demand democracy! Text "EMayIn" to 79999*.**
Demand an equal voice.



green
PARTY OF CANADA

Sled dog industry gets whipped

A B.C. government task force into the sled dog industry has made 10 recommendations to toughen up animal cruelty laws following the slaughter of sled dogs.

The report and a criminal investigation were ordered after it came to light

this year that the operator of the Whistler area's Howling Dog Tours put down between 70 and 100 dogs last April, when bookings apparently collapsed following the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

Premier Christy Clark says her government will

adopt all the recommendations, including increased fines to up to \$75,000 and 24 months in jail for the worst cases.

The province will also introduce a mandatory "standard of care" for the sled dog industry.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

\$100K

British Columbia will also provide the B.C. SPCA with a \$100,000 grant.



► A Lockheed Martin F-35 Joint Strike Fighter is shown in this undated handout photo.

Jet cost dispute heats up

► U.S. defence analyst says each jet will cost \$73 million over estimate

Canada's new fleet of stealth jet fighters will cost almost double what the Conservative government is projecting, a U.S. defence analyst says.

Winslow Wheeler, of the Centre for Defense Information in Washington, injected himself directly into the federal election by providing his estimate at a news conference on Parliament Hill.

Wheeler said yesterday the unit cost of the F-35 jet will be about \$148 million per airplane — an estimate that is in line with what the parliamentary budget officer has projected.

The government says the unit cost will be up to \$75 million per jet, and has mounted repeated public attacks on the budget officer's estimate.

"Nobody on this earth is going to be buying F-35s in flyable condition at \$75 million a copy. That's not in the cards," said Wheeler, who was invited to Ottawa by the left-leaning Rideau Institute think tank.

The untendered jet purchase is a contentious issue during the federal election campaign. The Liberals want to scrap any future deal with U.S. defence giant Lockheed Martin because they say it's not the way to go while the country is facing a deficit.

Wheeler worked for three decades on security issues for the U.S. General Accounting Office and for members on both sides of the aisle of the U.S. Senate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fight fees

The government plans to buy the 65 high-tech fighters to replace Canada's aging fleet of CF-18 jets.

▶ The overall cost to taxpayers would be about \$15 billion over 20 years, including maintenance costs, the government says.

► That estimate is based on a unit price of \$75 million per plane.



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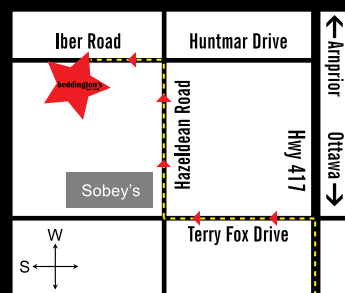
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Strongman still defiant

► Ivory Coast leader Laurent Gbagbo refusing to leave office
► French and UN forces begin strikes to support new elected leader

Ivory Coast's strongman leader Laurent Gbagbo holed up in a bunker inside the presidential residence yesterday, defiantly maintaining he won the election four months ago even as troops backing the internationally recognized winner encircled the home.

Gbagbo's comments by telephone to France's LCI television came as French officials and a diplomat said

"I won the election and I am not negotiating my departure."

LAURENT GBAGBO

he was negotiating his departure terms after French and UN forces launched a military offensive Monday. Democratically elected leader Alassane Ouattara has urged his supporters to take Gbagbo alive.

Talks about Gbagbo's de-

parture terms were ongoing yesterday evening directly between Gbagbo and Ouattara, according to a diplomat who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Royal. Stamp



► In this undated image provided by the New Zealand Post Group yesterday, a stamp is shown with perforations that split couple Prince William and Kate Middleton down the middle. The Pacific nation of Niue printed the unusual commemorative stamps for Britain's royal wedding.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/NEW ZEALAND POST GROUP

A love torn apart

An image of Prince William and Kate Middleton with perforations that split the couple down the middle appears on a new commemorative stamp, designed by the New Zealand Post. General manager Ivor Masters said the design had been approved by Queen Elizabeth II and the stamps were collectors' items, so it was unlikely they would be torn apart for postage.

Dutch police arrest incest suspect

Dutch police yesterday arrested the father of a 12-year-old girl who gave birth last month while on a school excursion, saying he is suspected of sexually abusing his daughter.

Prosecutors said they have "serious suspicions" the 52-year-old man abused his daughter,

12A father's arrest added another twist to the case of a 12-year-old girl who gave birth during a school trip without having realized she was pregnant.

resulting in her pregnancy.

"We don't know what exactly happened. That is why we arrested this man — to hear his side of the story," prosecutor's office spokeswoman Kirsten Smit said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Dictator using civilians as shields: Rebels

Libyan government forces unleashed a bombardment of rebels outside a key oil town yesterday.

NATO says a third of Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi's heavy weapons have been destroyed.

But rebels say Gadhafi's forces changed tactics in the western city of Misrata by moving tanks and other

heavy equipment to civilian areas to prevent pilots from targeting them.

A doctor in Misrata said Gadhafi's forces have been placing heavy weapons near civilians there for the past two weeks.

Misrata is one of two major cities that have risen up against Gadhafi.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LIBYA LANDMARK

Rebels turn on oil tap

Libyan rebels are exporting oil again for the first time in almost three weeks through a tanker that arrived yesterday at an eastern port,

potentially giving them crucial funding for their fight against Moammar Gadhafi's forces.

The tanker Equator, which can carry a million barrels of oil, was chartered by Geneva-based oil trader Vitol SA and would head for China once loaded.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Angelina Jolie, a United Nations goodwill ambassador, visits refugees at a camp near the Tunisia-Libya border. The UN says more than 400,000 people have fled Libya over the past month.

Hassle-free offer made to Gadhafi allies

► Quit Libya's tyrant and you can keep your cash and freedom, say U.S. and Britain ► Meanwhile, movie star Angelina Jolie greets refugees

It's a sweet deal diplomats hope Moammar Gadhafi's family and top aides will jump at:

If they publicly withdraw support for the Libyan dictator's regime, the restrictions on their assets and travel plans could be made to

vanish.

The U.S. Treasury and Britain's Foreign Office have spelled out the details of the proposal, and discussions are now underway at the European Union.

Gadhafi's seven sons, a wife, his daughter, two

cousins and other allies who have served him for years are all being given a chance to escape blacklists and reclaim billions of dollars of seized funds.

The EU will decide next week whether to lift a travel ban and asset freeze imposed on Moussa

Koussa, the former Libyan foreign minister who escaped from Tripoli, flew into Britain and is now providing information to intelligence officers.

The U.S. Treasury on Monday removed sanctions it had imposed on Koussa. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PERÚ

Elecciones Generales 2011

La Sección Consular de la Embajada del Perú en Ottawa-Canadá tiene a bien informarle que el próximo domingo 10 de abril se llevarán a cabo desde las 08:00 hasta las 16:00hrs, las Elecciones Generales para la renovación del mandato presidencial, Congreso Nacional y Parlamento Andino respectivamente. Dicho acto electoral tendrá lugar en el edificio de esta Embajada, sito en 130 Albert Street, K1P 5G4 Ottawa – Canadá.

Se recuerda a la comunidad peruana que para votar es necesario la presentación del Documento Nacional de Identidad (DNI) válido o vencido. Asimismo, **NO existe Mesa de Transeúntes.**

Cualquier duda sobre el particular sírvase contactar con la Sección Consular teléfono (613)233-2721

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Ballad of a rebel in China

► Bob Dylan to play in Beijing amid repression of dissent

Of all the musicians in the world who might be approved by the Chinese government to perform in China at this moment — amid a crackdown on free speech advocates — you would think Bob Dylan would be dead last.

The rebel icon, whose youthful songs inspired many during China's 1989 Tiananmen protests, seems the unlikely person Bei-

"It could be that people in the cultural ministry didn't know anything about Dylan."

BEIJING PROF. TENG JIMENG

jing would provide a platform for. But today, Dylan will stride on to a Chinese stage for the first time in

his life, with official approval from the ministry of culture. But there is a catch: Those in the know say there is a playlist from which Dylan cannot waver.

Prof. Teng Jimeng doubts that Hurricane, Dylan's ballad about the illegal jailing of Rubin (Hurricane) Carter, will be among them, as the arrest of China's famous artist Ai Weiwei is only days old. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



► Bob Dylan performs onstage during the 53rd annual Grammy Awards in February.

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Beware email scams: Experts

► B.C. bookseller, Best Buy, Air Miles among Canadian victims in hacker theft of millions of email addresses

An online bookseller in Victoria is the latest victim of a security breach involving an American email marketing company.

In an email to customers, AbeBooks says it has been warned by Texas-based Epsilon, which handles the company's email, that email addresses of some AbeBooks clients have fallen into the hands of an unauthorized person. Epsilon says a rigorous assessment determined that no other personal information was compromised.





The breach was first revealed last week, when Ep-

silon cautioned retailer Best Buy and other clients that millions of customers' names and email addresses had been hacked. Account information was not exposed, the company said.

Experts say that without passwords and other sensitive data, email addresses are of little use to criminals. But they can get past a spam filter and be used to craft dangerous online attacks.

AbeBooks urges clients to be cautious if they are asked for personal or account information in an email. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Market moment

TSX	Dollar
	
+ 52.19 (14,270.53)	+ 0.39¢ (\$103.75 US)
Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft
	
- 13¢ US (\$108.34 US)	\$4.231 US (- 5.8¢ US)
	Gold contracts
	\$1,452.50 US (+ \$19.50 US)

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. EST/EDT

Oceans. Five



► Sir Richard Branson at the announcement of his latest business venture yesterday at Newport Beach, Calif. Virgin Oceanic Expeditions, a deep-sea submarine, left, will take him and others to the deepest parts of the world's oceans. "Man has not explored our oceans," Branson said. "If someone says something is impossible, we like to prove it's possible."

REED SAXON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Staking out Virgin territory

Billionaire adventurer Sir Richard Branson plans to travel to the deepest parts of the world's five oceans in a single-person submarine. The Virgin Atlantic founder and fellow explorer Chris Welsh will take turns piloting the solo craft over the next two years, Branson said yesterday at Newport Beach, Calif., where he unveiled his latest business venture. Virgin Oceanic Expeditions extends the Virgin brand from outer space down to the depths of the oceans, but the adventure also has a scientific purpose, Branson said, and he is working with ocean research groups. Eventually, however, the plan is to build a larger submarine that can hold more people and offer trips to tourists — for a sizable fee.

This is Canada's year, think-tank says

A leading international think-tank says Canada will lead its G7 peers in economic growth during the first half of this year.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation

and Development says the financial outlook has brightened for all G7 countries, with the exception of Japan. But the improvement has been most marked in Canada and to a

lesser extent the United States.

Canada is expected to grow by 5.2 per cent in the first quarter of 2011, and 3.8 per cent in the second.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN



TAKE A LEAP: SAVE THE FROGS

If you're tired of saving the whales, why not try saving something completely different?

Save the frogs! World Save the Frog Day is April 29, and if ever a species needed a hand, it's the Kermit of the world. These days, it definitely ain't easy being green. More than 200 species of frog are now extinct, and we'll be down to no frogs in no time if we don't do something.

Did you know our increasing appetite for frogs' legs alone takes 100-million frogs out of the wild each year?

Or that Atrazine, a pesticide, turns male frogs into female frogs at only 2.5 parts per billion? And it's only one of 18,000 pesticides registered in the U.S.

You name it, it's a threat.

Frogs are hunted for their legs, but also for the pet trade and lab dissections. Bullfrogs, native to the eastern U.S., unfortunately have the meatiest extremities, so they are shipped all over the place. When they escape into the wild they take over, and are now the alpha frogs in 15 countries, muscling out local species.

Not only that, two-thirds of imported bullfrogs carry the deadly chytrid fungus, which further contributes to the wipeout of local frog populations.

Do I even have to make the case that frogs are cool? Is there a man out there who isn't carrying around an inner boy who used to catch frogs, name them, carry them in their pockets and use them to scare girls?

If that's not cool enough for you, frogs are amphibians, the world's oldest land vertebrates, with a pedigree going back more than 360-million years, long before dinosaurs stomped around the planet.

Other frog facts: The world's smallest is the Brazilian sapo-pulga, or flea frog, less than half an inch long (10 millimetres). The world's largest is the goliath frog, which can grow to a foot long (30 centimetres) and weigh more than three kilos! Both (of course) are endangered; the flea frog by pesticides, and the West African goliath by human appetite and loss of habitat.

On World Save the Frog Day, take action by raising the consciousness of local restaurants that serve wild frogs' legs, or take in Toronto's Frog Leap-a-Thon. Here's my favourite frog folly: Students at Texas Tech will go for a Guinness World Record by organizing the largest gathering of people wearing frog masks ever.

Or you can just raise your frog flag high. Whatever, the frogs will thank you.

Of course, there's a lot's more frog-saving info at savethefrogs.com.

Save the frogs!

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsayin

Worth mentioning

ROME. Italian researchers said yesterday they will dig up bones in a Florence convent to try to identify the remains of a Renaissance woman long believed to be the model for the Mona Lisa.

If successful, the research might help ascertain the identity of the woman depicted in Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece — a mystery that has puzzled scholars and art lovers for centuries and generated countless theories.

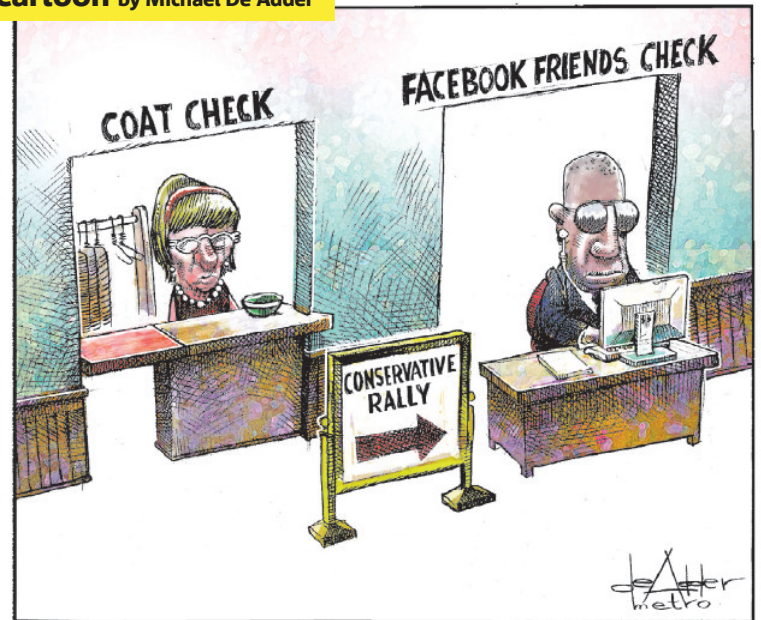
The project, launched yesterday, aims to locate the remains of Lisa Gherardini, the wife of a rich silk merchant named Francesco del Giocondo.

Tradition has long linked Gherardini to the painting, which is known in Italian as "La Gioconda" and in French as "La Joconde." Giorgio Vasari, a 16th-century artist and biographer of Leonardo, wrote that da Vinci painted a portrait of del Giocondo's wife.

Gherardini was born in 1479. A few years ago, an amateur Italian historian said he had found a death certificate showing she died July 15, 1542, and her final resting place is in central Florence.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cartoon by Michael De Adder



WEIRD NEWS

As long as the marriage isn't a disaster

Honeymoons aren't always easy for newlyweds, but six natural disasters?

When Stefan and Erika Svanstrom of Stockholm set out on their four-month-long honeymoon with their baby girl on Dec. 6, they say they got more than they bargained for: Immediately, they were stranded in Munich, Germany, due to one of Europe's worst snowstorms, he said.

But that was just the beginning.

After that, he said, they experienced the devastation of a cyclone in Cairns, Australia, and the flooding in Brisbane, and narrowly escaped the bush fires in Perth.

"We escaped by the skin of our teeth," Svanstrom said, recalling how they were evacuated in Cairns and were forced to spend 24 hours on a cement floor in a shopping centre with 2,500 others.

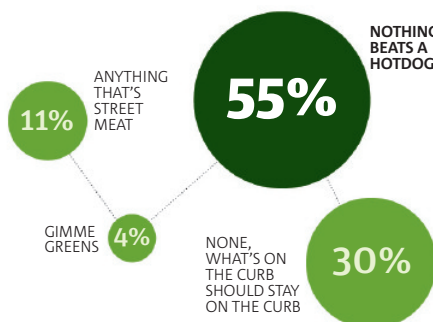
Just before they arrived in New Zealand, the 6.3-magnitude earthquake hit Christchurch and in Tokyo, they felt Japan's largest temblor since records began, he said.

Svanstrom said he also survived the devastating tsunamis that hit southeast Asia in 2004.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Take the poll online at metronews.ca

Eat St. debuts tonight on Food Network.
What's your favourite street eat?



TODAY'S QUESTION: WHERE DO YOUR SMARTPHONE LOYALTIES LIE?

Local tweets



- ▶ @JimWatsonOttawa: Off sick today with flu, so won't be tweeting.
- ▶ @theodotblog: Twitter updates 85% faster today as Mayor Jim Watson announces he will not be using Twitter due to illness.
- ▶ @rickmercer: Karate kids, an ATV and now he's on a fire truck? Is Harper applying to be PM or to take my job? #elxn41 #doingmyact
- ▶ @lamRickB: "@ExoticWonderBoi: Headed to work ... and yet its raining AGAIN!!!!!" april showers ...
- ▶ @lamRickB: #whycantyoujust stop raising prices Tim Hortons?
- ▶ @NinaAsha: Grrrr I hate living in ConstructionVille! We lost another tire to a nail!! Which sucks more when the car itself is less than a year old. >:(
- ▶ @vinniegutz: What should the minimum requirements be for a political party to be included in the televised election debates? @elizabethmay #cdnpoli
- ▶ @JenButson: "Can we just make the internet tubes wider? Can the Liberals do this?"



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2

scene

Comical



Peter Griffin and his long put-upon, but funny, family are heading to the pages of their own comic book series. Titan Comics and Twentieth Century Fox Consumer Products says that Peter, his wife, Lois; kids Meg, Chris and Stewie; along with family dog and martini aficionado, Brian, will headline their own series on July 27. Titan says the series also will feature other characters from its television counterpart, including Glen Quagmire, Cleveland Brown and Joe Swanson.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Stone Cold Steve Austin turned down 'Dancing With the Stars,' but supports Chris Jericho

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE

SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



BRANDING A REMAKE ROLE

It's a dangerous business trying to recapture movie magic, but Hollywood execs keep trying

Thirty years ago Dudley Moore introduced us to Arthur, a lovable but drunken millionaire playboy about to married to a wealthy heiress he did not love. "I race cars, play tennis, and fondle women," he said, "but I have weekends off, and I am my own boss."

The movie, Arthur, was a giant hit coming in fourth in the year's box office, earning four Oscar nods, winning two and spawning the number one hit Arthur's Theme (Best That You Can Do).

It's available on DVD and holds up very well, which is why it is a bit baffling that a remake of the same name is hitting theatres this weekend starring Russell Brand.

Remakes, of course, are nothing new. Hollywood has been recycling ideas since the beginning. For example, Cecil B. DeMille remade his own 1915 film The Golden Chance as Forbidden Fruit just six years later. The difference is that back then there was no portable archive of movies

available on Blu Ray or streaming video. Older movies were essentially inaccessible to most people so a remake was simply good business. Take a good story, repackage it and hopefully do good at the box office. Later, in the pre-home video years, remakes were a way to breathe some life into older movies by giving their stories a facelift with modern stars.

But times have changed. Now, via Netflix, On-Demand and Blu Ray, it's easier and cheaper than ever to seek out and see movies like the original Arthur.

So what's the point of the remake?

Well, for one thing, it's a perfect role for the impish Russell Brand and, for another, it's always great to see his co-star Helen Mirren on screen. And who knows? Maybe it's better than the original. It wouldn't be the first time.

With so many remakes — past, present and future — perhaps philosopher Raoul Vaneigem was right when he said, "Our task is not to rediscover nature but to remake it."



► Dudley Moore



► Russell Brand stars in the remake of Dudley Moore's Arthur.

A connection to his character

► Russell Brand credits hard partying years as reason for success at role ► Admits a fondness for his co-star



NED EHRBAR

SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

Relationship

How being married helped him connect

► **Character** Of course, it wasn't just Arthur's penchant for a party that Brand identified with. Another, more recent change in his life — his relationship with and marriage to Katy Perry — also helped him connect to the material, since Arthur is caught off guard when he meets a not-so-wealthy young woman played by Greta Gerwig. "My life has been changed by falling in love, so I know that whilst that is a romantic idea and in this case fictional, it's something that has happened to me," Brand says. "That's why I'm so enamored of this story."

that we established a context where the alcoholism was humorous and good fun but was not irresponsibly portrayed," he says.

"This is 2011, and it's important to see a resolution to the problem of Arthur's alcoholism, and that's one of the aspects — as a recovering alcoholic myself, I was particularly

happy with how that was rendered."

Playing opposite Greta Gerwig was a treat, Brand admits.

"We saw loads and loads of different actresses, which was all right — but of course I was already on the way to getting married then, so I couldn't enjoy it like the good old days, where auditions had a rather more primal quality," Brand jokes.

But there was something about Gerwig's reading that left an impression.

"Afterward I was sitting quietly and (director) Jason (Winer) said, 'Oh, what's the matter?' I said, 'I feel sad now that she's gone,'" Brand says. "And it's because I enjoyed playing with her. She has such a brilliant imagination, she's a great improviser with a wonderful understanding of comedy, a wide range of ideas, peculiar choices — but good peculiar."

Gerwig even admits that she's developed a serious crush on her co-star, Something Brand smarts at the notion of.

"Can't do nothing about it now. Just useless," he says. "Just a wonderful, useless thing, like a yacht in the middle of Idaho."

But in updating the story for today — the immature Arthur must choose between marrying a cold but wealthy woman (Jennifer Garner) or follow his heart and lose everything — Brand was insistent that his character's bacchanalian style of living not be showing in a completely glamorous light.

"It was very important

Those are the breaks in surfing

► After a shark attack that lasted a few moments but claimed her arm, Bethany Hamilton went on to become a pro surfer, an inspiration and an author ► Hamilton's pleased the film — based on her book — doesn't promote shark-phobia

NED EHRBAR
SCENE@METRONews.ca
METRO WORLD NEWS IN HOLLYWOOD

Bethany Hamilton shot to fame after her inspiring return to surfing following a shark attack that cost her her left arm in 2003. Now the 21-year-old Hawaiian native gets the surreal experience of watching her story recounted on screen in *Soul Surfer*.

Metro spoke with Hamilton about seeing her life on screen, getting her story told the right way and balancing movie responsibilities, her surfing schedule and charity work.

What was your reaction when you saw the finished film?

Seeing the final cut, I was just stoked. I was kind of

just nervous what Hollywood would do with a true story. But my family and I being able to give input and feedback on the script really helped it just stay true to who we are and authentic.

What did you think of AnnaSophia Robb, who plays you in the film?

AnnaSophia is amazing. I think she did so well just capturing who I am and my outlook on life. We became really good friends and got to hang out, and I taught her to surf. I think just by her getting to know me really just helped her show who I am to the world.

Was there any parts of the movie that were harder to watch than others?

No, I don't feel like I'm re-

living it at all. And I've healed really well from everything, so it's been nice to not be so emotional and just be able to watch it and critique it and help it to be more accurate.

The shark attack, for example, really was very accurate to how it actually happened. It was just really quick — in and out of there real quick, and I didn't see anything. So I think that's kind of nice, because I didn't want to cause shark-phobia. I hope it doesn't scare people away from the water.

Your work with relief organization World Vision after the 2005 tsunami in Thailand plays a major part in the film. Have you been doing anything similar after the Japanese tsunami?

I've been tweeting about it

a bit just to keep people's awareness and not to forget. So often when tragic stuff happens, it's like, "Oh no, look at this, this is awful!" And then you just forget the next day.

But I approached World Vision to see if I could go, but I don't know. I wish it was a different time, because I've always wanted to go to Japan, even before the tsunami. It's really sad. The Japanese people are just so beautiful.

Where are you in the pro surfing calendar now?

It just started. I had one event so far this year, which didn't go so well. I'm not really expecting much with all the distractions with the movie, but I'll still compete this year and hopefully get back into the groove of things soon.



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Essential Killing finds right pace

► Jerzy Skolimowski's story about a Taliban fighter doesn't miss a beat



ADAM
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A critical hit at last year's Toronto International Film Festival, Jerzy Skolimowski's

ki's *Essential Killing* features the year's most unique bit of casting: the infamous American actor and musician Vincent Gallo in a wordless performance as a Taliban fighter

captured by American forces and chased through a snowy, nameless European country.

"We knew each other from California," says the 72-year old filmmaker, a

leading light in the Polish New Wave of the 1960s who also co-wrote Roman Polanski's debut feature *Knife in the Water*. "Two hours after I gave him the script he said, 'I'm from



► Vincent Gallo stars in *Essential Killing*.

Buffalo, so I'm used to low temperatures and running barefoot through the snow. He wanted to do it."

The director says he'd hoped to do most of the shooting around his home in Poland, but that he couldn't count on enough snow and had to film a lot in Norway.

"Snow is the national product there."

When the film premiered last year in Venice

(where Gallo won the Best Actor prize) Skolimowski was bombarded with questions about whether or not the film was a political statement, but he maintains he had a different purpose in conceiving the story.

"For me, the most important thing is the process that turns a human being into a wild animal," he explains. "He's fighting for his life."

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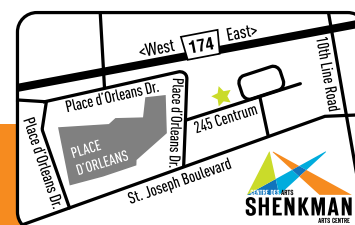
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Chow down on Eat St.

► New series captures revolution in gourmet food, says host

Canadian comedian James Cunningham has noticed what he calls a “revolution” taking shape in North America’s gourmet food world — mouth-watering mobile meals.

As host of the Vancouver-produced series *Eat St.*, debuting tonight on Food Network Canada, Cunningham has been travelling around the U.S. (with a stop in B.C. as well) for the past nine months to profile popular street eats.

Along the way, he’s noticed that many food trucks and carts these days are far from your average greasy-spoon street stop — they’re run by professional chefs serving comfort dishes with a gourmet edge.

“Either you sink a whole bunch of money into a restaurant, or you do what they did and get really creative and you open up a food truck and serve this great gourmet stuff to people on the street.”

JAMES CUNNINGHAM, HOST OF *EAT ST.*

“With what’s been happening with the economy ... we have all these great chefs looking for a way to bring their food to the people,” the Toronto native said in a recent interview.

“Either you sink a whole bunch of money into a restaurant, or you do what they did and get really creative and you open up a food truck and serve this great gourmet stuff to

people on the street.

“It’s a gourmet restaurant without the restaurant.”

The first episode of *Eat St.* (airing at 9:30 p.m.) opens with a profile of the Grilled Cheese Truck in Los Angeles, which has a rabid following and a menu that includes the Cheesy Mac&Rib (with southern-style macaroni and cheese, pulled smoked

pork and caramelized onions) and the Brie Melt (made on cranberry-walnut bread with sliced pears and honey).

Then it’s off to Austin, Tex., to visit two stationary trailers — Izzoz Tacos and the G’Raj Mahal, which serves authentic Goan dishes from Goa, India. The final stop is Schnitzel & Things, a mobile food truck in New York City.

Streeteries profiled in upcoming episodes include a lobster cart, a pulled-pork truck and a mobile converted school bus that serves classic French cuisine, including escargot and French onion tart.

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► Canadian comedian James Cunningham is the host of the new series *Eat St.*

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Wells' film filled with good company men



PHIL BROWN
SCENE@METRONWS.CA

This week John Wells makes his feature filmmaking debut with *The Company Men*, a passionate, tragic — and ultimately uplifting — story about the painful unemployed limbo that has sadly befallen so many during the current recession.

Surprisingly, the writing veteran of TV series like *E.R.* and *The West Wing*, started work on the film a

decade ago, even though it now hits a little closer to home.

“I started writing the screenplay during the dot com bust after my sister’s husband and about 5,000 other people suddenly lost their jobs on a Tuesday,” Wells said. “I went online and asked if anyone had any stories or anecdotes to share as research for my screenplay and got a couple thousand responses within a weekend. But by the time I turned the screenplay into the studio

that recession was over and they said, ‘Nobody is going to want to see a movie about that.’”

Wells’ film follows a variety of characters at all levels of the economic spectrum, from CEOs making cost-cutting decisions, to engineers who find themselves working construction. The timely script attracted an impressive cast, including Ben Affleck, Tommy Lee Jones and Chris Cooper, but despite the considerable talent involved, Wells made his

movie independently.

“Seven to 10 years ago, I think somebody would have made this film in the studio system, but these kinds of films are being made very rarely in Hollywood today,” he said. “The studios want to ensure that they can do foreign business and that leads them to easily translatable projects like action movies, animation and science fiction. I certainly go to see those movies, but there needs to be a place for films like *The Company Men*.”



► Tommy Lee Jones, left, and Ben Affleck star in *The Company Men*.

THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



TV watch list



Blackmailing hackers

TV SHOW. Christian Slater stars in the new half-hour comedy *Breaking In* as the owner of a high-tech security firm. In this week's episode, the pilot, he blackmails a computer hacker to join his team.

► *Breaking In*
CTV

Stacked line-up for Late Late Show

TV SHOW. There's a lot of Cancon on the late night talk shows tonight. Ellen Page is a guest on the *Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson*, while Norm Macdonald and Elisha Cuthbert are on *Jimmy Kimmel Live*.

► *Late Late Show*
CBS

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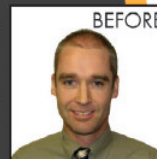


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► Marvel is preparing to re-launch the Captain America comic.

Captain America set to make dramatic return

► Marvel's Steve Rogers to don the suit, shield again

The original Cap is coming back.

Marvel Comics said Monday that Steve Rogers, the young man who tried but failed to join the Army during the Second World War only to take a super-soldier serum that turned him into the agile, strong and daring Captain America, will return to the role in *Captain America No. 1* in July.

Nearly four years ago, Rogers abandoned the costume, and the job, after he was gunned down on the steps of a courthouse and

thought dead. Since then, his former sidekick, Bucky, has been sporting the shield and a sidearm, too.

But with a new film this summer from Marvel Studios — *Captain America: The First Avenger* — it's unthinkable to have someone else wearing the costume and throwing the shield other than Rogers.

Marvel is keeping mum about the new series' story but said it is being written by Ed Brubaker, who has been guiding the character for years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Captain America

The background on the long running history of one of Marvel's most successful comics.

► **Going down in history**
Captain America has long been a bedrock character for Marvel. Created by Jack Kirby and Joe Simon in 1941, his debut issue showed him knocking out Adolf Hitler on the cover of *Captain America Comics No. 1*.



► Katie Holmes and daughter Suri

Big plans for Suri's birthday

► Mom Katie plans pool party, piñata for 5th birthday bash

Katie Holmes is gearing up for daughter Suri's birthday. "She's turning five in about two weeks. She wants a piñata and her girlfriends to come over [and go] swimming. We're gonna make a cake

together," Holmes tells Ryan Seacrest during a radio interview.

"This is my favourite day of the year. So we're gonna have a little tea party, and I like to girl it up."

● METRO

Aguilera: Not the best year

Christina Aguilera is willing to admit that, between her divorce, botching the National Anthem at the Super Bowl and getting arrested for public intoxication, she's been having a rough year.

"There have been obvious setbacks. It's a life-uprooting time and there have been hiccups along the way that unfortunately the whole world gets to witness and judge," Aguilera says, according to Us Weekly.

"I can laugh about my own hiccups and my own experiences in life be-



► Christina Aguilera

cause I'm getting through it."

● METRO

Bubl   robbed during wedding

While singer Michael Bubl   and actress Luisana Lopilato were tying the knot in Argentina over the weekend, their home was burglarized, according to TMZ.

No one was home at the time, and it was not

revealed how much was stolen.

Despite the incident, the wedding weekend continues.

"I will not let this ruin the happiest day of my life," Lopilato told reporters. ● METRO



► Michael Bubl  

Franco: Twitter is so over

After a brief foray into Twitter, James Franco is over the whole concept. "Social media is over. Still up there. Going down. You heard it here first," Franco says, according to Politico. The actor, who live-Tweeted during his Oscars hosting gig, has made his own account private. ● METRO

Celebrity tweets



"Do not fear...the Sheenius is here!" I'm not gonna lie. I came back to twitter for 2 reasons. My fans and to follow @charliesheen"



@gypsyhearttour



@kirstiealley

"Party girl? not so much tonight... BUT I did get a tattoo and I love it....and I had fun"



@justinbieber

"sick show in Berlin ...brought @studio mama on stage 2 sing her happy bday but she lit her hair on fire with the candles. lol. i saved her"



@ConanOBrien

"If I'm ever a ghost, I hope the person I haunt has Netflix."

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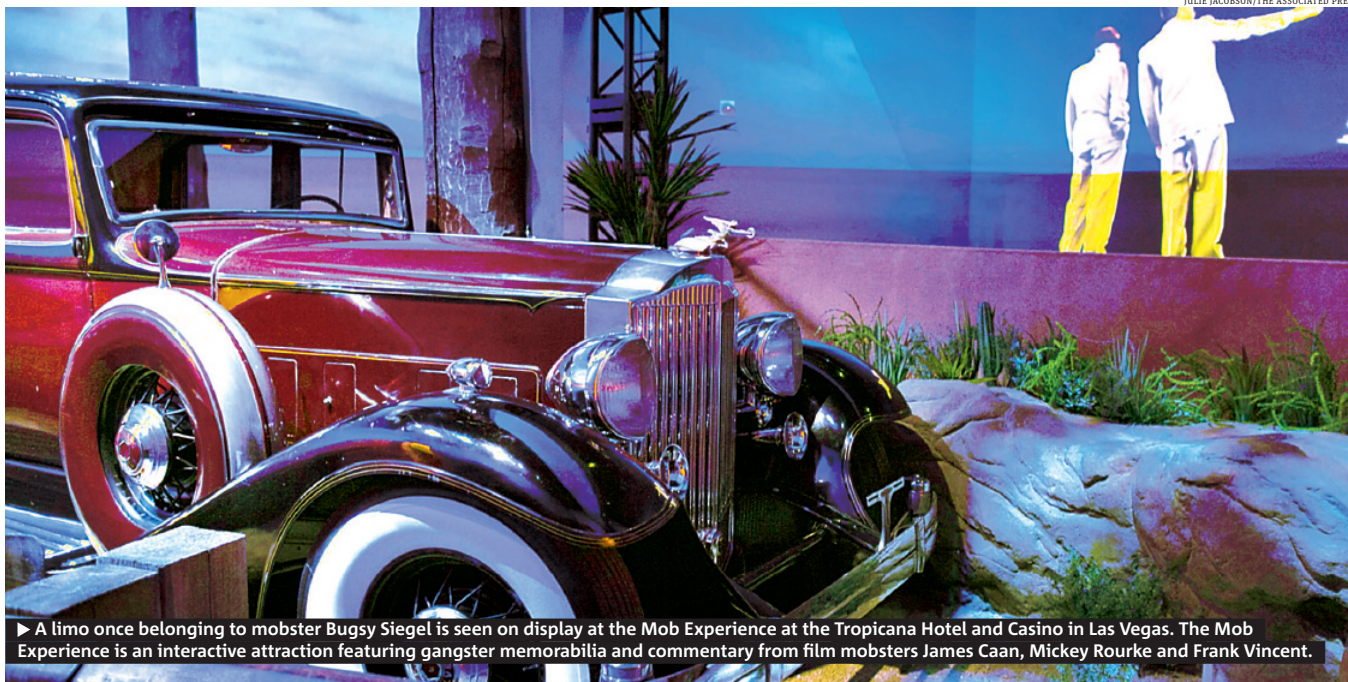
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- ◊ Sin city has a pair of new attractions related to the town's ties with organized crime
- ◊ Museum will have wide variety of artifacts, as well as protect historical buildings
- ◊ Tropicana's 'Mob Experience' gives visitors a chance to get 'made'



► A limo once belonging to mobster Bugsy Siegel is seen on display at the Mob Experience at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. The Mob Experience is an interactive attraction featuring gangster memorabilia and commentary from film mobsters James Caan, Mickey Rourke and Frank Vincent.

Vegas embraces its organized past

Speakeasies, bootleggers, gun-wielding crime bosses and tough-guy accents pay homage to Las Vegas' mob roots in a pair of new attractions showcasing Sin City's criminal history.

An interactive attraction featuring gangster memorabilia and commentary from film mobsters James Caan, Mickey Rourke and Frank Vincent opened last week on the Las Vegas Strip. And Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman, a former mob defence lawyer, plans to launch his Las Vegas Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement later this year. For Las Vegas, the attractions represent an unprecedented embrace of its infamous founders.

"What differentiates us



► Actors playing mobsters act out a scene at the Mob Experience at the Tropicana in Las Vegas.

from any other city is our history," Goodman said. "This is the story of America."

The desert oasis made famous by scantily-clad showgirls, ubiquitous slot machines and 24-hour happy hours has long celebrated its reputation as a haven

of vice, but its relationship with the mob has taken a few hits in recent years. The city that once proudly boasted of its ties to organized crime — Goodman played himself in the 1995 mob movie Casino — has instead promoted its family-friendly restaurants and

Broadway shows for the past decade.

No more.

The Tropicana casino and hotel, a one-time hangout for organized crime now more known for its bargain-counter room rates, celebrated its new "Mob Experience" attraction last week with a red carpet party attended by the son of Tony "The Ant" Spilotro, the inspiration for the bloodthirsty Joe Pesci character in Casino.

The sprawling casino attraction features the diary of mobster Meyer Lansky, Spilotro's gun and family photos and home movies from other infamous criminals.

Visitors are greeted by life-size holograms of chat-

ty gangsters and a chance to get "made."

The publicly-funded mob museum, meanwhile, is slated to open in December at a downtown Las Vegas courthouse where a detailed mob hearing that helped expose organized crime to ordinary Americans was held in 1950.

The \$42 million museum started as an effort to save one of Las Vegas' few historic buildings. It's amassed a wide collection of gangster artifacts, including the wall from Chicago's St. Valentine's Day massacre, the only gun recovered at the mass shooting and the barber chair where hit man Albert Anastasia's life came to an end in 1957.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3

life

Travel in brief



Tips on how to deal with long car trips.

- Pack several different entertainment items suited for each child. When they tire of one, they can move on to the next.
- Pack healthy snacks that your kids enjoy. Time travels more slowly when you're hungry.
- Stop and smell the roses: scenic look-outs and picnic areas are great places to let kids burn off some of that boundless energy.

- Old favourites: time flies when you're doing group activities like singing songs together, playing I Spy or seeing how many provincial and state licence plates you can count.

NEWS CANADA



Gulf Coast tourism officials 'cautiously optimistic' about prospects for 2011

Acapulco's a draw for good reasons

John Wayne slept here.

And so did Tarzan, or at least Johnny Weissmuller, the man who created the famous yodelling call used by every successive loincloth-clad, vine-swinging Hollywood.

"Here" is Los Flamingos,

a tiny pinkwashed stucco hotel, perched about 275 metres above the Pacific Ocean, on the edge of the cliffs that form part of Acapulco's Old Town.

"This way, that's Tarzan's round house," says Carlos Serrano, the

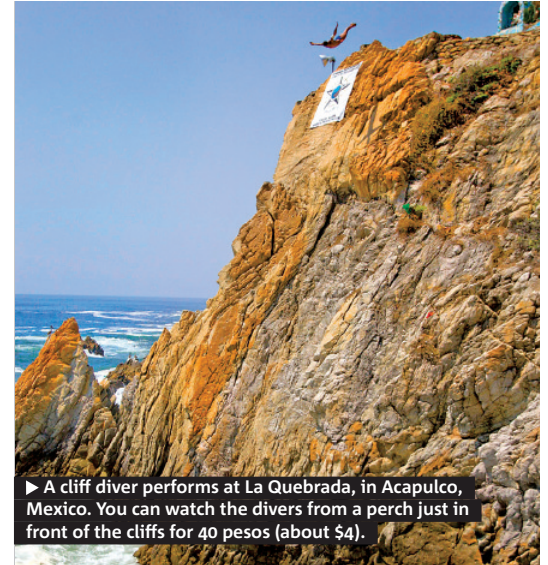
cab driver who brought me to one of the symbols of what Acapulco once was — a playground for the rich, the famous and, most of all, for Hollywood stars.

Weissmuller, an Olympic gold-medal-winning swimmer, wasn't

the first Tarzan, but he became the best known and played Edgar Rice Burroughs' jungle-raised ape man in a dozen films. The cool wind off the Pacific, even on a 30-degree-plus day, is a reminder of why the location was great in an age before air conditioning. Now however, all the action has moved down the hill directly to the bay itself.

There, and at the Diamante resort area just southeast of Acapulco proper, are the huge hotels, condominiums and time-shares that still swell Acapulco's native population with thousands of visitors.

It's easy to see the attraction the ancient city on the Pacific holds for visitors. Checking the winter weather forecast seems pointless when the chances are 10-to-1 it will be 30 and sunny. OK, sometimes it's 32 and sunny.



► A cliff diver performs at La Quebrada, in Acapulco, Mexico. You can watch the divers from a perch just in front of the cliffs for 40 pesos (about \$4).

Acapulco is a city of ups and downs once you move away from Costera Miguel Aleman, the broad boulevard choked with traffic that runs along the beach.

There are hillside discos where you can dance the night away and first-class restaurants that show off Mexican and international cuisine. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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North America

Las Vegas May Long Weekend \$579
Imperial Palace + taxes & fees \$168
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Vancouver Air + 4 Nights \$749
Sandman Hotel City Centre + taxes & fees \$172
INCLUDES downtown accom. Departs Jun 23/ggv/ws. ADD Vancouver Lookout Admission for \$15

Family Specials

Orlando Air + 7 Nights \$239°
Champions World Resort + taxes & fees \$295
INCLUDES accom near Walt Disney World Resort. Departs Jun 4/ggv/ts. Price is per person based on a family of 4. ADD 5-Day Magic Your Way Base Ticket from \$254 adult / \$229 child (3-9 years).

Mont Tremblant Easter Weekend 3 Nights 4-Star \$139°
Lodge De La Montagne + taxes & fees included
INCLUDES 1-bedroom condo-style accom located in the heart of the pedestrian village. Price is per person based on a family of 4. Departs Apr 21/ggv.

New York Harry Potter: The Exhibition Air + 3 Nights \$599°
Excelsior Hotel + taxes & fees \$115
INCLUDES Manhattan accom during the August long weekend. Visit Harry Potter: The Exhibition in Times Square. Departs Jul 29/ggv/ac.

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Europe

London Air + First 2 Nights \$599
Tavistock + taxes & fees \$477
INCLUDES your first 2 nights central accom. ADD 3-day BritRail England Flexipass for \$207. ADD 7-day travel card for \$45. Departs May 16/ggv/thn/ts.

Iceland Air + 5 Nights \$1049
Hilton Reykjavik Nordic + taxes & fees \$406
INCLUDES central Reykjavik accom. Departs Jun 9/ggv/fi.

Ireland Air + 7 Nights 4-Star + Golf \$1245
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From TV to book-stores

Kary Osmond knows her way around the kitchen and has been familiar with culinary undertakings since she was six.

"I helped in my parents' Ukrainian deli in Mississauga (west of Toronto) getting platters ready for banquets and other events," says the 32-year-old host of CBC TV's show *Best Recipes Ever*, which airs weekdays at 3 p.m.

It's a gig Osmond has aspired to for years. She always dreamed of having a cooking school or show.

After graduating from the chef program at Toronto's George Brown College, she landed a position at a Toronto restaurant.

In her spare time she was an avid viewer of the Food Network Canada and Canadian Living Cooks. So it was fortuitous that she would be chosen for *Best Recipes Ever*.

Coincidentally, Osmond takes advantage of Canadian Living Magazine's vast vault of recipes and meal-time solutions on the show.

Busy cooks can now also find many of those same recipes in one collection entitled *Best Recipes Ever: Easy, Affordable, Healthy Meal Solutions for Everyday Occasions* (Transcontinental Books, \$29.95, paperback). It showcases all of the recipes featured on the show's first and second seasons. Cooks will find recipes for everything from appetizers to desserts. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Mushrooms to bring out love?

LARRY CROWE/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Start to finish:
30 mins
Servings:
4

► This stroganoff is great served over brown or red rice as well as mashed potatoes or the more traditional noodles.

Sauté for 10 minutes or until mushrooms are soft and brown.

3 Add wine and balsamic vinegar, stir well. Bring to a simmer reduce heat and cook for 5 minutes. Stir in cilantro, then

creme fraiche. Season with salt and pepper. Serve over rice, mashed potatoes or noodles.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ RECIPE ADAPTED FROM ONE WORLD VEGETARIAN COOKBOOK BY TROTH WELLS (INTERLINK, 2011)

Ingredients:

- 30 ml (2 tbsp) canola oil
- 1 medium yellow onion, thinly sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, crushed
- 500 g (1 lb) button or mixed mushrooms, sliced or quartered
- 5 ml (1 tsp) paprika
- Pinch nutmeg
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) white wine
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) balsamic vinegar
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) fresh cilantro
- 90 ml (6 tbsp) creme fraiche
- Salt and ground black pepper, to taste

Spicy Moroccan soup, South African bobotie, lentil curry from Nepal, even Mexican burritos.

When you're looking to cook up some vegetarian love, the world's cuisines offer plenty of ways to stimulate the senses.

"It's a lovely way to do it, especially if you've been somewhere and you want to recreate a magical moment," says Troth Wells, author of *One World Vegetarian Cookbook*.

Oysters and steak with bearnaise have long been the standard for "roman-

tic" meals.

But Wells says the inherent sensuality of vegetables will tickle the senses without leaving you too full to frolic after.

And then there are the spices. Considered aphrodisiacs by many ancient cultures, spices such as nutmeg are said to increase amorous function. Chili releases endorphins, while cinnamon, cardamom and cloves have historically been considered erotic scents.

"Like diamonds and perfume, anything that's ex-

pensive and requires some dangerous exploits to get it has some sexual excitement to it," she says.

Mushroom Stroganoff

Preparation:

1 In a large skillet over medium-high, heat oil. Add onion and sauté for 4 minutes. Add garlic and sauté for another 30 seconds.

2 Increase heat to high and add mushrooms, paprika and nutmeg.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE VISITOR AND THE STATION AGENT

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How to make that PowerPoint pop

► Click, click, click, snooze? ► Keep your colleagues awake with these tips on perfecting the work presentation



DREW HINSHAW
LIFE@METRONews.CA

When the moment comes to deliver a sales pitch or propose a project, all too many speech-shy professionals fall back on what may be the modern world's most tedious way to present an idea: PowerPoint.

Speech coaches say there's no better tool for turning a slide show into a drag.

"I myself like PowerPoint, I just don't like what people do with it," bemoans Elaine Snyder, public speaking expert. "They

"When delivering the presentation never look at the screen. People don't want to see the back of your head."

ELAINE SNYDER,
PUBLIC SPEAKING EXPERT

put a whole bunch of stuff up on the screen, which is the worse thing there is to do."

Cramming your slides with fine text could make your PowerPoint feel power pointless. To avoid the temptation, script your speech on a scrap of paper.

"Don't put together your presentation in PowerPoint," speech coach Patricia Fripp recommends. "Build it on a pad of paper, a white board, or on a flip chart, and then ask yourself, where absolutely must I add the PowerPoint?"

With a good script, you might be surprised how little you need it.

"If you're engaging the audience, and you're telling a story, you won't need PowerPoint," she says. "But if you're looking to illustrate a point, you might want to have a chart, or a graph, or a dia-



► Wake up those workers!

gram. Or, if it's a learning session, you just put bullet points of what you want people to remember."

One of the biggest dangers in using a slide show in a pitch isn't what it does to your speech – it's what it does to your body language.

"When delivering the

presentation, never look at the screen," Snyder stresses. "People don't want to see the back of your head."

Fixating your eyes on the audience in front of you conveys confidence, she adds. And long after that audience has forgotten the contents of slide 27 — or how quirky the ani-

mated .gif was on slide 42 — they will remember the impression they took away of you.

"A speech is all about building rapport with the audience," Fripp concurs. "If the audience is reading your PowerPoint, then they can't listen and pay attention to you."

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Here is one story that should give people pause when they are offered legal services over the Internet.

Recently, a couple came to me seeking a second opinion following a dispute with a temporary contractor they hired, or so they thought. They had found a lawyer online, selling precedent “contracts” at a discount. Since this couple was new to their business, they

BEWARE THE ONLINE BUY

were unfortunately drawn to this lawyer's website, believing they would get a solid product without spending money on a lawyer's time

The couple explained that they had sought to hire an individual contractor to complete a few tasks. After that, they would not need him anymore. They swiftly purchased one of this lawyer's "contracts" online and gave it to the individual to sign, not realizing that what they had purchased was much different from what they actually needed the contractor to sign.

After he had completed his tasks within the first six months, the contractor's job was done. No problem there. However, the contract they had signed guaranteed him one year's worth of work. Even though the individual was

no longer needed, when the couple attempted to end his employment early, he demanded pay for the remaining six months, arguing that his contract was for a defined term.

The problem is that the contract they bought online did not allow them to end the job early without paying for the remaining time on the contract (something that most employment lawyers should spot as a matter of course) and, worse yet, the lawyer who sold it to them had not bothered to discuss that with them, since they never even met! As this couple now owed the contractor twice the fee they initially expected to pay him, the "contract" they bought ultimately cost them much more than they paid for it.

The full article can be read online at metronews.ca.

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4
sports

Quoted



"It seems that everyone has pretty much got Mickelson in the green jacket Sunday evening and there's not much use in turning up at this point. He's a great player around Augusta, and if you finish ahead of him you've got a decent chance."

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GRAEME MCDOWELL ON
PHIL MICKELSON BEING THE
FAVOURITE TO WIN THE
MASTERS.



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Spezza lights up floundering Flyers

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

► Ottawa forward has goal, three assists ► Flyers fall out of first place overall in Eastern Conference

Jason Spezza scored once and added three assists last night as the Ottawa Senators defeated the slumping Philadelphia Flyers 5-2.

Spezza's 20th goal of the season came on the power play at 8:02 of the third to give Ottawa a 4-2 lead. The Senators scored three times with the man advantage before an announced crowd of 18,397 at Scotiabank Place.

Ryan Shannon and Bobby Butler had a goal and an assist each, while Nick Foligno and Milan Michalek, into an empty net, rounded out the scoring for Ottawa (31-39-10). Filip Kuba added two assists.

Butler scored at even strength on a breakaway late in the second period to give the Senators a 3-2 lead.

Ottawa has won two of the past three and four of the past five at Scotiabank Place to improve a poor home record to 15-20-5.



Craig Anderson made 27 saves, sending the Flyers (46-23-11) to their fourth loss in a row and fifth in the past six games.

Mike Richards scored both goals for Philadelphia, which failed to clinch the Atlantic Division title with the loss and the Pittsburgh Penguins' 4-2 win over the New Jersey Devils.

The Flyers also fell out of first place overall in the Eastern Conference and now trail Washington by two points. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



► Nick Foligno celebrates his goal with teammate Ryan Shannon.

Opinion

KEN CAMPBELL

THE HOCKEY NEWS



SENS SHOULD HOPE FOR PICK IN TOP FOUR

The Ottawa Senators have not assured themselves a bottom-five finish in the NHL standings yet, but their chances of having at least an opportunity to secure the first pick overall are looking pretty positive.

The Senators went into last night's game against the Philadelphia Flyers holding down the 27th spot in the league, which would have them seeded fourth for the draft lottery. That would give them a 10.7 per cent chance of winning the lottery and choosing first overall for the first time since 1996. If they could somehow move in arrears of the Florida Panthers, they'd have the third seed and their chances of choosing first would increase to 14.2 per cent.

But even if the Senators run the table and win out in the regular season, the worst they'd be seeded is sixth.

But chances are they'll be in the top five and for their sake, hopefully the top four. And that is important because there are four prospects in most observers' minds who have set themselves apart this season and by finishing 27th or worst, the Senators would assure themselves of having a chance of selecting one of those players.

Edmonton has already assured itself of last place and will likely pick first overall. They'll have to choose between a slick

centre in Ryan-Nugent Hopkins and a top-flight defenceman in Adam Larsson of Sweden. The Colorado Avalanche, if they were second, would likely take whomever Edmonton doesn't take, but there's a chance they could go with centre Gabriel Landeskog of the Kitchener Rangers.

None of the three is considered a bad choice by most NHL scouts and where they are drafted might depend on what the team needs. Ironically, Nugent-Hopkins might go first and not be ready to play in the NHL next season, whereas both Larsson and Landeskog are seen as much more NHL-ready.

So if the Senators do manage to pick fourth, their choice will almost certainly come down to one of two hulking Quebec Major Junior Hockey League centres — either Sean Couturier of the Drummondville Voltigeurs or Jonathan Huberdeau of the St. John Sea Dogs.

Both have put up impressive numbers this season and represent the big centre every team covets. Whomever the Senators get, they can be assured of adding a very solid prospect to their fold.

Now all they have to do is make it happen in the last week of the season.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
y-Washington	80	47	22	5	6	219	194	105	24-8-2-6	23-14-3-0	7-2-0-1	W3
dx-Philadelphia	80	46	23	4	7	249	215	103	21-12-2-5	25-11-2-2	3-4-0-3	L4
y-Boston	79	44	24	5	6	238	189	99	20-13-3-3	24-11-2-3	5-3-1-1	L1
x-Pittsburgh	80	47	25	5	3	225	196	102	25-14-2-0	22-11-3-3	7-3-0-0	W2
x-Tampa Bay	80	44	25	5	6	237	236	99	24-11-1-4	20-14-4-2	5-3-1-1	L1
Buffalo	80	41	29	9	1	236	222	92	20-16-3-1	21-13-6-0	7-1-2-0	W2
Montreal	79	42	30	4	3	208	204	91	23-13-3-3	19-19-1-0	4-6-0-0	W1
NY Rangers	80	43	32	2	3	228	193	91	19-16-1-3	24-16-1-0	7-2-0-1	W2
Carolina	79	38	30	6	5	225	232	87	21-13-3-2	17-17-3-3	7-2-1-0	L1
Toronto	80	37	32	5	6	215	243	85	18-14-3-5	19-18-2-1	7-2-0-1	L1
Atlanta	78	33	33	5	7	214	252	78	17-15-2-5	16-18-3-2	5-5-0-0	L1
New Jersey	79	36	38	3	2	165	200	77	20-16-2-1	16-22-0-2	3-6-0-1	L2
NY Islanders	79	30	37	7	5	220	250	72	17-18-1-4	13-19-6-1	3-5-2-0	L1
Ottawa	80	31	39	5	5	188	245	72	15-20-2-3	16-19-3-2	5-3-0-1	L1
Florida	79	29	38	5	7	190	220	70	15-17-4-4	14-21-2-2	1-6-0-3	W8

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
p-Vancouver	79	52	18	4	5	254	181	113	26-9-1-4	26-9-3-1	8-2-0-0	L1
y-San Jose	79	47	23	4	5	240	202	103	24-11-2-3	23-12-2-2	8-1-0-1	W4
y-Detroit	79	46	23	6	4	255	231	102	21-13-4-2	25-10-2-2	5-3-2-0	W2
Los Angeles	79	45	28	4	2	214	191	96	24-12-3-0	21-16-1-2	6-3-1-0	L1
Phoenix	79	42	25	7	5	224	217	96	20-13-4-3	22-12-3-2	7-2-0-1	L1
Nashville	79	42	26	7	4	209	188	95	22-9-5-3	20-17-2-1	7-2-1-0	L1
Anaheim	79	44	30	3	2	228	231	93	24-13-1-1	20-17-2-1	7-3-0-0	L2
Chicago	78	42	28	3	5	246	214	92	23-16-0-0	19-12-4-4	5-4-1-0	L1
Calgary	80	40	29	4	7	242	233	91	22-13-1-3	18-16-3-4	4-4-1-1	W2
Dallas	78	39	28	4	7	214	224	89	20-11-3-5	19-17-1-2	2-5-2-1	W1
Minnesota	79	37	34	3	5	198	224	82	18-17-2-3	19-17-1-2	2-7-1-0	L2
St. Louis	79	36	33	4	6	232	229	82	21-13-1-4	15-20-3-2	5-4-0-1	W1
Columbus	79	34	32	5	8	210	246	81	17-18-1-4	17-14-4-4	2-5-2-1	L3
Colorado	78	29	41	7	1	218	275	69	15-20-4-0	14-21-3-1	3-7-0-0	L1
Edmonton	78	24	43	2	9	186	256	59	12-21-1-5	12-22-2-3	1-6-1-2	W1

x — clinched playoff berth; y — clinched division title; d — division leaders; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL or SOL columns.

Last night's results

Washington 3 Toronto 2 (SO)
Buffalo 4 Tampa Bay 2
Pittsburgh 4 New Jersey 2
Ottawa 5 Philadelphia 2
Chicago at Montreal
Colorado at St. Louis
Atlanta at Nashville
Columbus at Dallas
Vancouver at Edmonton
Monday's results
N.Y. Rangers 5 Boston 3
San Jose 6 Los Angeles 1

Tonight's games

N.Y. Islanders at Boston, 7 p.m.
Toronto at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Florida at Washington, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Carolina, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.
San Jose at Anaheim, 10 p.m.
Phoenix at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Atlanta at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Colorado at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

CAPITALS 3, MAPLE LEAFS 2 (SO)

First Period

1. Toronto, Kulemin 30 (MacArthur, Gunnars-son) 5:37 (pp)
2. Washington, Ovechkin 31 (Laich, Sturm) 11:28 (pp)

Penalties — Carlson Wash (holding) 4:23, Lashoff Tor (delay of game) 9:37, Crabb Tor (hooking) 11:17.

Second Period

3. Toronto, Lupul 14 (Kessel, Schenn) 1:35
4. Washington, Erskine 4 (Hendricks, Bradley) 12:07

Penalties — Chimera Wash, Komisarek Tor (fighting) 12:34, Brent Tor (holding) 15:26.

Third Period

No Scoring.

Penalties — None.

Overtime

No Scoring.

Penalty — Backstrom Wash (delay of game) 4:50.

Shootout

(Washington wins 1-0)

Toronto (0) — Grabovski, miss; Kadri, miss;

Kulemin, miss; Lupul, miss. Washington (1) — Backstrom, miss; Hendricks, miss; Ovechkin, miss; Knuble, goal.

Shots

Washington 9 17 14 1—41

Toronto 5 5 10 1—21

Goal — Washington: Neuvirth (W,27-11-4);

Toronto: Reimer (SOL,20-8-5). Power plays

(goals-chances) — Washington: 1-3; Toronto: 1-2.

Referees — Tom Kowal, Kevin Pollock. Lines-

men — Steve Miller, Mark Shewchuk.

Att. — 19,509 at Toronto.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
D.Sedin, Vcr	41	59	100
T. Louis, TB	30	64	94
Perry, Ana	47	46	93
H.Sedin, Vcr	19	73	92
Stamkos, TB	44	45	89
Iginla, Cal	39	42	81
Ovechkin, Wash	30	51	81
Zetterberg, Det	24	56	80
Selmane, Ana	28	48	76
Toews, Chi	31	44	75
C.Giroux, Pha	25	49	74
Kopitar, LA	25	48	73

E.Staal, Car	33	39	72
Marleau, SJ	37	34	71
B.Richards, Dal	26	45	71
Getzlaf, Ana	19	52	71
Kesler, Vcr	37	32	69
P.Kane, Chi	26	43	69
Ryan, Ana	34	34	68
Sharp, Chi	34	34	68
J.Thornton, SJ	20	48	68
Ribeiro, Dal	18	50	68
Vanek, Buf	28	39	67
Crosby, Pgh	32	34	66
Nash, Cbl	32	34	66
Eriksson, Dal	24	42	66
Visnovsky, Ana	18	48	66
J.Carter, Pha	36	29	65
Tanguay, Cal	21	44	65
Pavelski, SJ	19	46	65
Tavares, NYI	28	36	64
Briere, Pha	32	31	63
M.Richards, Pha	21	42	63
Backstrom, Wash	18	45	63
Duchene, Col	27	35	62
Heatley, SJ	25	37	62
Clowe, SJ	24	38	62
Havlat, Minn	22	40	62
Lidstrom, Det	16	46	62
Krejci, Bos	13	49	62
Kessel, Tor	30	31	61
Lucic, Bos	30	31	61
MacArthur, Tor	21	40	61
Backes, Stl	29	30	59
Yandle, Phi	11	48	59
Grabovski, Tor	29	29	58
Skinner, Car	29	29	58
Datsyuk, Det	22	36	58
Doan, Phx	19	39	58
Elias, NJ	19	39	58
P.Bergerson, Bos	22	35	57
P.Stastny, Col	22	35	57
J.Williams, LA	22	35	57
M.Koivu, Minn	17	40	57
Kovalchuk, NJ	29	27	56
Kulemin, Tor	29	27	56
Umbarger, Cbl	25	31	56
Plekanez, Mtl	21	35	56
Ra.Whitney, Phx	16	40	56
D.Brown, LA	28	27	55
Ladd, Att	27	28	55
Couture, SJ	31	23	54
Franzen, Det	28	26	54
Semin, Wash	28	26	54

Not including last night's games

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
x-Toronto	14	10	4	.714	165	139	—
x-Buffalo	12	8	4	.667	131	112	1
x-Rochester	12	7	5	.583	125	125	2
Boston	14	6	8	.429	141	139	4
Philadelphia	13	5	8	.385	121	149	4½

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
y-Calgary	14	10	4	.714	177	157	—
x-Washington	14	7	7	.500	177	165	3
x-Minnesota	13	6	7	.462	149	147	3½
Edmonton	14	4	10	.286	151	177	6
Colorado	12	3	9	.250	106	133	6

x — clinched playoff berth; y — clinched division.

WEEK 14

Friday's games

Buffalo at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.

Colorado at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday's games

Philadelphia at Boston, 7:30 p.m.

Buffalo at Rochester, 7:35 p.m.

Colorado at Edmonton, 9 p.m.

Minnesota at Washington, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's game

Rochester at Philadelphia, 2:30 p.m.

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	4	0	1.000	—
New York	3	1	.750	1
Toronto	2	1	.667	1½
Boston	0	4	.000	4
Tampa Bay	0	4	.000	4

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	3	1	.750	—
Chicago	2	1	.667	½
Cleveland	2	2	.500	1
Detroit	1	3	.250	2
Minnesota	1	3	.250	2

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	4	0	1.000	—
Seattle	2	2	.500	2
Los Angeles	2	3	.400	2½
Oakland	1	2	.333	2½

Yesterday's results

L.A. Angels at Tampa Bay
Cleveland 3 Boston 1
Minnesota at N.Y. Yankees
Oakland at Toronto
Seattle at Texas
Chicago White Sox at Kansas City
Monday Results
Baltimore 5 Detroit 1
N.Y. Yankees 4 Minnesota 3
Texas 6 Seattle 4
Today's games
L.A. Angels (Haren 0-0) at Tampa Bay (Hellickson 0-0), 1:10 p.m.
Seattle (F.Hernandez 1-0) at Texas (C.Wilson 0-0), 2:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 1-0) at Kansas City (Francis 0-0), 2:10 p.m.
Boston (Matsuzaka 0-0) at Cleveland (Talbot 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Detroit (Verlander 0-0) at Baltimore (Bergesen 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Pavano 0-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Garciaparra 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Braden 0-0) at Toronto (Litsch 0-0), 7:07 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Boston at Cleveland, 12:05 p.m.
Oakland at Toronto, 12:37 p.m.
Minnesota at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Chicago White Sox, 2:10 p.m.
Detroit at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
Philadelphia	3	2	1	0	2	1	6
New England	3	1	0	2	4	3	5
New York	3	1	0	2	2	1	5
Chicago	2	1	0	1	4	3	4
Kansas City	3	1	1	1	8	8	4
Toronto	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
Columbus	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
D.C. United	3	1	2	0	5	7	3
Houston	3	0	1	2	2	3	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
Colorado	3	3	0	0	8	2	9
Los Angeles	4	2	1	1	4	5	6
Real Salt Lake	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Vancouver	3	1	1	1	7	6	4
San Jose	3	1	1	1	4	6	4
Seattle	4	0	2	2	3	6	2
Chivas USA	3	0	2	1	3	5	1
Portland	3	0	2	1	2	6	1
Dallas	3	0	2	1	1	5	1

Note: Three points for win, one point for tie.

Tonight's game

New England at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	3	0	1.000	—
Atlanta	3	1	.750	½
New York	2	1	.667	1
Florida	1	2	.333	2
Washington	1	2	.333	2

CENTRAL DIVISION

5
drive

By comparison

Volvo XC60 AWD

Base price: \$46,200
Cool and comfy all-weather wagon that focuses on safety, agility.

**Audi Q5 V6**

Base price: \$51,700
Touareg's second cousin with a luxurious cabin and Quattro four-wheel-drive.

**Lincoln MKX AWD**

Base price: \$48,000
New-look 2011 model a techno-marvel inside plus plenty of interior space.



WHEELBASE MEDIA



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Engine performance

A mix of new and old can be found beneath the Touareg's freshly formed hood. A 280-horsepower 3.6-litre V6 (TSI) carries over as the base gasoline engine.

Still optional is a 225-horsepower 3.0-litre V6 turbo-diesel (TDI) that makes 406 pound-feet of torque.

The TDI is rated at 11.9 l/100 km in the city and 8.0 on the highway, compared with 12.3/8.8 l/100 km for the TSI.

Wider, shorter and lighter

The Touareg is now a bit wider, but shorter than before and has been stretched by about 3.8 centimetres between the front and rear wheels.

However, the greatest singular advancement is in the 160 kilograms that have been excised from the vehicle. Most of the seven-per-cent weight reduction comes from lightening the platform and powertrain as well as a number of key suspension components that are now constructed of aluminum.

4MOTION

All Touaregs come standard with VW's dual-range 4MOTION all-wheel-drive setup that in normal driving situations maintains a 40:60 front-to-rear torque bias. The system also features a locking centre differential that fixes the torque split to maximize traction over slippery terrain.

For 2011, Comfortline, Highline and Execline trim levels are offered. All feature a wealth of luxury content.



► The Touareg looks different, for sure, but just as important is that it weighs significantly less. Coupled to a new eight-speed automatic transmission, fuel economy is much improved.

Give this SUV some respect

MALCOLM GUNN
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WHEELBASE MEDIA

Rodney Dangerfield famously complained that he never received a scintilla of respect.

In terms of overall popularity, the Volkswagen Touareg has had the same issue with its 2004-model-year launch.

Perhaps it's the nearly unpronounceable name (Touareg, or Twah-regg, refers to a nomadic Sahara-dwelling tribe), its low-key styling or a price tag that outdistances many of its luxury competitors.

But it could also be that people shopping for vehicles in this bracket are reluctant to spend in excess of 50 large for a Volkswa-

gen, regardless of how proficient it is at churning up the sod.

These folks can cross-shop VW's Audi offshoot for the five-passenger, V6-equipped Q5 sport ute that offers upscale brand name cachet for about the same price as a new Touareg.

Fortunately VW has managed to attract sufficient fans of the marque to invest in an updated second-generation wagon that wraps its rugged underpinnings in a more attractive package.

Now that the slimmed-down Touareg has also been made more attractive and less thirsty, Volkswagen can likely expect more look-sees and a less of the Rodney Dangerfield treatment.



► A look at the cargo space of the Touareg.



► There's really no such thing as a "base" Touareg since you get leather and a fancy touch screen in the centre stack.

Touareg

What you should know about the 2011 Volkswagen Touareg:

- **Types:** Four-door, four-wheel-drive sport utility vehicle.
- **Engine (hp):** 3.6-litre DOHC V6 (280); 3.0-litre DOHC V6, turbo-diesel (225).
- **Transmission:** Eight-speed automatic.
- **Market position:** The Touareg slots into the mid-luxury group of sport utility vehicles that includes both genuine off-road-capable vehicles plus so-called soft-roaders that function well in poor weather and/or poor road conditions.

EVERYONE LEARNS FROM MISTAKES, RIGHT?

Auto Pilot

MIKE GOETZ

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Humans learn from mistakes — it's part of our survival strategy. This is why disco only happened once, aided of course, by John Travolta's inability to squeeze back into his white pants.

The meltdown of the auto industry in 2008 wasn't entirely the industry's fault, but its subsequent reincarnation affords us an opportunity to see if, too, has the ability to learn from past missteps.

It obviously had to downsize to meet lower "recession-style" demand, and in cases like Chrysler and GM, just to stay afloat.

But even with modest sales in 2009, lots of automakers turned nice profits. With lower operating costs they didn't have to sell so many units, and by not "over producing" they didn't have to sell those vehicles at "fire sale" prices. Not only is this a better profit model, it's better for the automaker's long-term brand image and health. Can they stick to this plan?

The telltale signs of oversupply are incentives — zero per cent financing, manufacturer rebates, employee pricing, bobble-head dolls for the first 1,000 customers. Automakers don't like incentives, but it's hard to look the other way, when you got product piling up and/or competi-

tors eating your lunch. We're seeing more and more incentives creep back into the market, including many now based on fuel discounts.

Short-term fix or a slippery slope? We'll see. I think most automakers are just trying to adjust to the softer-than-expected rebound of the economy.

Many are sticking to their guns, however, about not "over producing." GM, for example, had a problem keeping up with Chevrolet Equinox and GMC Terrain demand. Both are built at the company's plant in Ingersoll, Ont. But instead of throwing big money at another plant, it addressed the situation with two shrewd moves — adding an Equinox/Ter-

rain line at its Oshawa facility, and introducing the Chevy Captiva, a "fleet only" Mexican-built crossover based on the recently departed Saturn Vue.

Another automaker lesson learned since 2008, is don't alienate your suppliers. When automakers downsized, the supplier community suffered collateral damage. The automakers didn't shed too many tears over this, but now that they're in recovery mode and need more parts, the auto parts suppliers aren't too quick to shake hands and make nice.

And then there is the leasing lesson: Ford, GM and Chrysler and others stopped leasing vehicles even before 2008, as they

failed to manage the risks of using low, monthly leasing payments to move vehicles off lots. To get low leasing rates, they had to artificially inflate the value of what the vehicle would be worth as a used vehicle at lease end. The automakers' in-house leasing companies were often on the hook for these discrepancies, which was exacerbated by a big batch of identical cars entering the used market at the same time, further depressing values.

Ford, GM and Chrysler are, or will soon be, tipping their toes back into leasing, and we wonder how disciplined they will be this time around.

I'm guessing, way more disciplined, but you never know.



► The fleet-only Chevrolet Captiva is part of a shrewd plan to help GM overcome supply issues with the hot-selling Chevrolet Equinox and GMC Terrain crossovers.

Mazda 'brand strategy' is all in the SKY

DRIVING FORCE

JILL McINTOSH
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Cars may be easy to operate, but they're incredibly complex machines. As automakers make them more fuel-efficient and reduce their emissions, they must consider that complexity and how to make changes that will affect the whole vehicle.

Mazda is addressing the challenge with SKYACTIV, a multi-faceted approach that includes engine, transmission and body structure technologies. Rather than focusing on a single vehicle, SKYACTIV is a long-term

plan that will eventually benefit all of the company's models.

The first improvements will roll out on the 2012 Mazda3.

"It's our philosophy that we want our solution to benefit all Mazda customers, not just a sliver," says Robert Davis, Mazda's North American Operations Senior VP of R&D. "It's a brand strategy, not a model strategy."

The technologies include improved transmissions, lighter weight, lower-cost manufacturing, and engines that combine higher compression and direct gasoline injection to create the "perfect combustion moment" — getting maximum energy from the fuel with minimal waste.



► The 2012 Mazda3 sedan (pictured) and hatchback will be the first to feature some of the new SKYACTIV program.

It's still important to focus on internal combustion engines (ICE) that use gasoline or diesel, even as automakers work toward electric vehicles.

"In the marketplace where we compete, 99.99 percent (of vehicles) are sold with ICEs," Davis says.

"Even today's hybrids all have ICEs. For us, the logical choice was to start there and work our way out. SKYACTIV allows us to do this with gasoline and diesel, so whether it's a Mazda2 or MX-5, it has the same environmental commitment, as opposed to a customer who

Manufacturing

- While not generally considered part of fuel efficiency, manufacturing plays a role.
- Optimal production techniques can reduce costs on fuel-efficient technologies that may otherwise be too expensive.
- Mazda's SKYACTIV transmission improvements include a system that allows both automatic and manual transmissions to be built on the same assembly line, which saves money.

has a hybrid and a pickup truck."

A major challenge with technology is keeping it affordable, especially with weight, where Mazda's goal

is a net reduction of 100 kilograms over the previous model.

"Eighty per cent of the target is based on making it lighter and stronger, 12 per cent is based on changes to size, and 8 per cent is based on the use of lightweight materials," Davis says. "The bulk of the body structure changes are in design and not in materials. Remember, we sell cars in the mainstream. I would love to put carbon fibre roofs on our cars, but it's not appropriate for us; our customers can't afford that solution."

"We'll get to the point where we have to use lightweight materials in the future, but like the ICE, we have to sharpen our pencils in other places before we go there."

[illegible]

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THE NEW 2011 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SXT 4X4

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GROWING CHOICE OF
LIGHT DUTY PICKUP***



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 DIESEL PICKUP IN 2010**
 LEGENDARY CUMMINS® POWER



PURCHASE FOR

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2011 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Sport shown.⁵

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- Premium interior door trim • Overhead console
- Power sliding rear window

NO CHARGE HEMI® ENGINE

- Ram is the only Heavy Duty Diesel pickup in the market that does not require a Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) system to meet stringent Canadian emissions requirements
- 350 hp @ 3,000 rpm • Up to 650 lb-ft of torque
- Class-exclusive 6-speed manual transmission
- Nobody offers a better diesel engine warranty:
5 years/160,000 km



**NO CHARGE
CUMMINS® TURBO
DIESEL ENGINE
\$9,345 VALUE**

+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from \$0 to \$1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from \$0 to \$1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

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Jeep



RamTruck.ca/Offers

'The best car nobody's ever heard of'

► **Volvo C30 owners seem unanimously impressed**

SECOND GEAR



JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

The C30 is Volvo's compact three-door hatch, which the Swedish automaker launched on Canadian shores for 2007 to battle the likes of the Audi A3, Mini Cooper, VW GTI, Mercedes B200 and others.

Available solely as a four-seat model with front-wheel drive, the C30 brought Volvo's reputation for safety, uniqueness and refinement into the upscale hatch segment. In the used market, shoppers can consider one of two engines for their C30. Standard was a 2.4-litre inline five-cylinder

What's the 4-1-1

- **Model:** 2007 to 2010 Volvo C30
- **Vehicle Type:** Three-door hatch
- **Approximate used price range:** \$16,000 to \$26,000

backed by a five-speed manual or five-speed automatic. This particular C30 designation was named the "2.4i," and it developed 168 horsepower.

The C30 "T5" got a turbocharged 2.5-litre five-cylinder engine, good for 218 horsepower and fitted with a six-speed manual. Newer models got a slightly-increased 227 horsepower. Available or standard feature content included a tilt and telescoping steering wheel, a sunroof, automatic



► 2007 Volvo C30

climate control, Volvo's unique waterfall console, antilock brakes, full power accessories, a driver computer, and an 8-speaker stereo with satellite radio.

What Owners Like

Ride and handling are almost unanimously highly rated amongst C30 owners.

Phrases like "fun to drive," "exciting" and "sporty" were frequently used as descriptors. Shifter feel and a solid, nicely-trimmed cabin are also raved about. One owner in an online forum even called the C30 "the best car nobody's ever heard of."

What Owners Hate

Heavy doors, a long reach for the seatbelts and hefty fuel consumption with the turbo engine are the more typical owner complaints.

Some owners also wish for an extra set of doors for easier access to the rear seats.

Common Issues

The C30 isn't a sales superstar — so the availability of consumer-reported reliability information from the usual sources is fairly sparse.

In checks of the usual online forums, things on the dependability front looked fairly solid.

Some digging revealed age-related complaints about broken floor-mat anchors, easily-chipped paint, a rattly rear window, and a trim-piece around the parking brake that often becomes loose. Nothing major.

Avoid any model with a manual transmission that exhibits grinding or slippage, which could indicate a problem with the clutch or gearbox.

The Verdict

End of the day, a well-maintained C30 should prove unique, fun, enjoyable and reliable.

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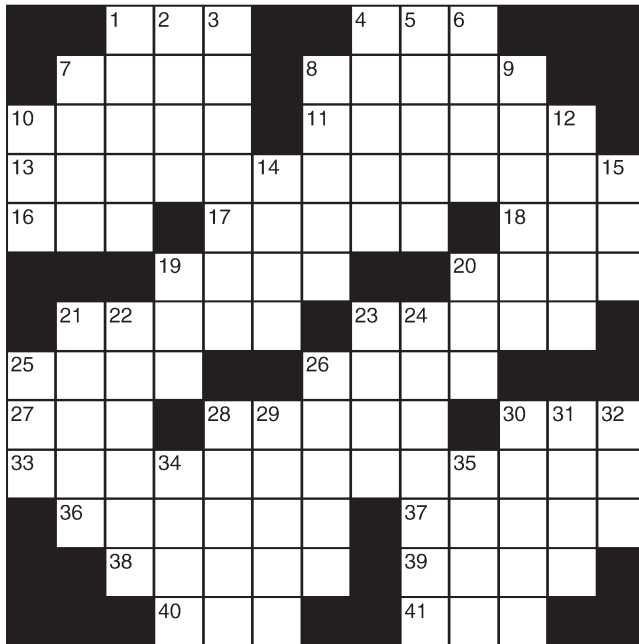
Crossword

Across

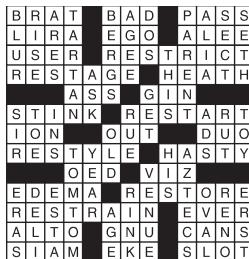
- 1 Cage component
4 More, to Manuel
7 Actress Spelling
8 Island south of Sicily
10 November birthstone
11 Under the weather
13 Binary array
16 Marry
17 Poet James Whitcomb —
18 Pensioned (Abbr.)
19 Bohemian
20 Simple
21 Guys
23 Penniless
25 Coffee shop vessels
26 Satyrlike figure
27 Standard
28 Wrinkly fruits
30 Bando of baseball lore
33 Romantic whisperings
36 Computer style
37 Motorola smartphone
38 Considers
39 Springsteen's "— Fire"
40 Before
41 Chow down

Down

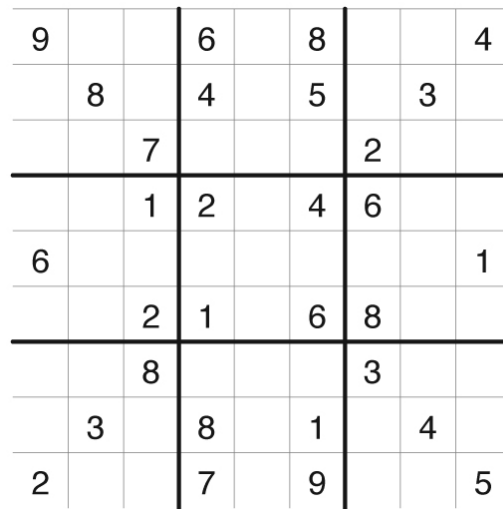
- 1 Lassoed
2 Alternatives to 401(k)s
3 More than just odd
4 Corn
5 Cats' bailiwick
6 Commotion
7 Color quality
8 With fervor
9 Parka
10 AAA job
12 Silliness symbols
14 Little lice
15 Pigpen
19 Commercial
20 A billion years
21 Elongate vowels, maybe
22 Illiterate
23 Worms, often
24 "The Satanic Verses" author
25 Boom times
26 Disasters



Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

3	7	2	4	1	9	8	5	6
5	8	9	6	7	2	1	4	3
1	4	6	8	5	3	2	9	7
2	5	7	9	4	8	3	6	1
4	3	8	1	6	7	9	2	5
9	6	1	2	3	5	7	8	4
8	1	4	3	9	6	5	7	2
7	9	3	5	2	4	6	1	8
6	2	5	7	8	1	4	3	9

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Jennifer, You are the most amazing and beautiful girl I have ever seen. Even when your at your worst, you remind me of the rainbow. Your sweet, funny and great to be around. Love you long time boo LOVE ALWAYS, SB

Happy Birthday, Sleeping Beauty. Wish you all the happiness and joy for today and always. I treasure all our special moments and look forward to many more with you. With lots of love, J'taime. PRINCE CHARMING

i love you xubi! Thank you for being such an amazing husband.. U make everyday beautiful =) ... LOVE, HINU!

Dear Marie, Just a small poem to thou from thee. U r amazing it is plain to see, I am very happy that U and I spells we. XOXO GEMINIGUY

Today's horoscope

♈ **Aries** March 21-April 20 Get it together. Create something amazing over the next day.

♉ **Taurus** April 21-May 21 Others may worry about the future, but you know that what's to come isn't yet written.

♊ **Gemini** May 22-June 21 It's always important to get your timing right, and now is the time to make your mark.

♋ **Cancer** June 22-July 22 Force yourself to make an effort. The results will be surprising, and the rewards will be amazing.

♌ **Leo** July 23-Aug. 23 Find new ways to explore your world. Do something exciting.

♍ **Virgo** Aug. 24- Sept. 22 While others take risks and look foolish, you weigh odds and make the right moves.

♎ **Libra** Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Sometimes, you have no choice but to follow someone who has a better proposal. It's that time.

♏ **Scorpio** Oct. 24-Nov. 22 It's not often that you act on impulse, but you'll do so today. It's all or nothing.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♐ **Sagittarius** Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Be creative and try something new. Aim high, then go higher.

♑ **Capricorn** Dec. 22-Jan. 20 If a friend offers you advice, you would be wise to pin back your ear lobes and listen.

♒ **Aquarius** Jan. 21-Feb. 18 The first idea that comes to mind is the one you must follow, no matter how strange.

♓ **Pisces** Feb. 19-March 20. If you're brave enough to follow your gut, you might make a fortune. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest



WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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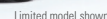
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SONATA GL 6-SPEED. DELIVERY,
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\$141[†] WITH **0%**
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AND **NO** DOWN PAYMENT

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